

EXPLORING GUIDED ORIGINALITY

Two Days: Thursday & Friday, September 24 & 25, 2026

Making art takes time...and sometimes a little creative nudge to get something down on paper. One can learn a lot by temporarily abandoning the conventional for the quirky, and setting aside outcomes in favor of experimentation. Come prepared to explore your own unique creativity using simple tools and materials to make lively pages which ultimately will tell you something wonderful about yourself. We'll turn lines and shapes into letters, blobs into beings, and words into rivers. We'll draw and stretch letters to the brink of unreadability, and use the Kemper Fluid Writer, gel pens and other conventional nibs to create our own alphabets. And then we'll put it all together to make art! Throughout each day there will be ample stretches of work time to play with what we're learning. We'll work hard, but at a gentle and relaxed pace.

EXPLORING DRAWN LETTERS

One Day: Saturday, September 26, 2026

The discipline of learning traditional calligraphic hands is something of great value, and I highly recommend it. But there's also a parallel track of equal value, and that is learning to create unique letters and alphabets from scratch, and learning how to make them work with each other on the page. In this one-day workshop we'll use the Kemper Fluid Writer, Gel Pens and Speedball B nibs to make exciting and perhaps delightfully unusual letters, which can be used as accents to illuminate a page, or as text for an entire block of text.



NANCY HAYS HILLS is an artist and Episcopal deacon living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her working career was in the field of advertising and graphic design, from which she retired in 2020 to devote more time to her dual vocations of ministry and art. She shares a home with her husband Julian, and her trusty feline sidekick, Samantha. Nancy began drawing as soon as she could hold a crayon, and was lucky enough to have parents who encouraged their shy child to express herself on paper – especially her father, who would amuse her by drawing cartoons, sometimes in ballpoint pen on the bottoms of her feet! She took her first calligraphy course at age 17, and has incorporated lettering in her art ever since. She teaches art and drawn lettering classes online and in-person art retreats. In addition to individual pieces, she has been working in art journals for over 20 years, and her artwork from those journals has appeared in *Alphabet*, *Bound & Lettered*, *Letter Arts Review*, and in the 25th Edition of *The Speedball Textbook*.

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Friends of Calligraphy is pleased to present:

NANCY HAYS HILLS

TWO IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS

ALL LEVELS WELCOME

Both workshops will take place at the
Arlington Community Church
52 Arlington Avenue, Kensington
9:30 AM — 4:30 PM

EXPLORING GUIDED ORIGINALITY: 2 DAYS

Thursday and Friday,
September 24 & 25, 2026

Fee: \$190.00

EXPLORING DRAWN LETTERS: 1 DAY

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Fee: \$95.00

**Registration opens
Monday, August 10**

<https://www.friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/classes.html>

Scroll to **EXPLORING GUIDED ORIGINALITY** for the two day workshop.

Scroll to **EXPLORING DRAWN LETTERS** for the one day workshop.

Click Pay Now

Online payments only for these workshops.

The classes are limited to 18 FOC members.

To join FOC, go to:
<https://www.friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/mbrsignup.html>

If more than 18 registrations are received on August 10, participants will be selected in a blind lottery.

Workshop fees are refundable until August 24.

Questions? Contact Nancy Noble at nrnoble@sfsu.edu